THE SEVENTH DAY.

Thursday, the 17th March, 1932.

The Assembly met again at 11-30 A. M., the Dewan presiding.

116. Needs of the Vaikam taluk.

MR. C. M. CHERIYAN (*Vaikam taluk*) first urged the need for raising the level of the road on the western side of the Panjipalam to a length of one furlong. This road connected the Udayanperur-Vaikam road with Talayolaparambu. Portion of the road, to a length of one furlong, was so low that in the rainy season it was wholly submerged under water necessitating the use of a ferry boat.

The Puthen *todu* connected the Ittipuzha with the Murinjapuzha river, two tributaries of the Muvattupuzha river. Portion of it, to a distance of three-fourths of a furlong was rocky. This rocky portion should be deepened by blasting the rock. The metal obtained by blasting it could be used for raising the level of the road referred to above. This process would result in a considerable saving of expenditure to the Government. The *todu* was useful for irrigation and navigation.

The Chempil market was an important market in the taluk, very largely resorted to by the merchants and others of the locality. But they were put to much inconvenience for want of a proper landing place in the river close by. A landing place should be constructed in the river and the market connected with that landing place by a road. The length of the road would come to only about one furlong and a half.

There were large extents of *kari* lands in the Vaikam taluk. The crops in most of them failed owing to the floods in the Muvattupuzha river. The main reason for this was want of proper outlet for draining away the flood water in the Murinjapuzha river. This defect could be remedied if a canal be cut across the Kulasekharamangalam pakuthi connecting the river with the backwater. The total length of this proposed canal would be only about 3 furlongs. The lands on the eastern side of the backwater would also become fertile by the deposit of debris from this canal.

The Turuttummel *kara* in the Vaikam taluk was surrounded by water and was thus separated from the rest of the taluk. There was a ferry-crossing to connect it with the mainland but there was no road from the ferry crossing leading to the main road, *viz.*, the Vaikam-Udayamperur road. A three feet trace should therefore be opened from the ferry to the main road.

The fish market at Talayolaparambu was situated in a thickly populated place. The holding of this market rendered the place insanitary and unhealthy. The fish market should therefore be shifted to a place on the eastern side of the market.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Kadutturutti had neither a hospital nor a dispensary. The nearest hospital was nine miles away and consequently people suffered much from want of timely medical aid. A dispensary at least should therefore be established at that place.

There was no lady doctor in the Vaikam Hospital. A large number of the patients there were women. They were put to much inconvenience owing to the absence of a lady doctor. A lady doctor should therefore be appointed there.

The buildings of the V. M. school, Kulasekharamangalam, were in a dilapidated condition. These buildings should be reconstructed. They were originally put up by the local inhabitants who were unable to reconstruct them.

The non-departmental Anchal Office at Chempil should be made a departmental office.

The question of constructing bridges across the Poottotta and Murinjapuzha rivers had already engaged the attention of the Government. Early steps should be taken for constructing the bridges.

In this connection, the member said that, in order to prevent the flow of salt water into the paddy fields, the people had been urging on the Government the need for a *chira* across the Poottotta river. This *chira* would not serve the purpose. It would be better if a dam be constructed across the river. This would prevent the inflow of brine and also serve as a bridge. The river water could be drained by cutting open a canal in Udayamperur; and two sluices in the canal would prevent the flow of salt water also. The cost of these works would be less than that of a bridge and further, a portion of it would be met by the Cochin Government.

The ryots' road from Peruva market in the Mulakulam pakuthi to Monipalli should be extended to meet the M. C. road at the 114th milestone and taken over for departmental maintenance. The length of the extension would only be one mile.

A three feet trace should be opened from the Chemmanakari Excise Station to Udayanapuram, a distance of two miles.

The Vallayil *todu*, the Anchumana *todu* and the Kalchira *todu* should be widened and deepened. They were very useful for irrigation purposes.

A lock and sluice and a culvert should be constructed at the Chakkalayil *todu* which benefited a large extent of paddy fields in the Vadayar pakuthi.

The village road from Elankavu on the Vaikam-Ettumanur road to Vazhamana should be improved by raising its level. During the rainy season the road was submerged under water and unfit for traffic.

The Vaikam-Vechur road should be completed and extended to Kumarakam at an early date.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

The last request of the member was the cutting open of the Bhutattan *todu*. If this *todu* be widened, deepened and extended to the backwater, the inundation and damage by the river water of the paddy fields in the Vadayar, Maravunturuttu, Kulasekharamangalam and other *pakuthies* would be averted.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Nineteen subjects, Mr. Cheriyan, and you have told me that ten of them are important. The first five, dealing with roads landing places, canals, etc., will be investigated and reports obtained from the Chief Engineer.

The shifting of the Talayolaparambu fish market will be considered as soon as a report is received from the Dewan Peishkar.

In regard to the establishment of a hospital at Kadutturutti, I may tell you that the question has been considered already, and that it has been decided that a medical institution at Kadutturutti is not necessary.

A woman doctor will be appointed in the Vaikam Hospital when more women medical officers are entertained in the department.

It is recognised that the vernacular middle school building at Kulasekharamangalam is in a bad condition, and the construction of a new building is receiving attention. We hope to make provision for it in the next year's budget.

The non-departmental Anchal Office at Chempil is not getting sufficient income to justify its conversion into a departmental office. It is a permanent one; but its conversion must wait until the business in it improves.

The question of providing irrigational facilities by the construction of a bund across the Poottotta river is under consideration.

The construction of a bridge at Murinjapuzha must wait until funds are available.

The taking over, for departmental maintenance, of the ryots' road from Peruva to Monipalli is receiving the attention of the Public Works Department.

The road from Udayanapuram to Chemmanakari has been considered by the Road Board; and it will be taken up in the order of priority fixed by the Board.

The works in the Vallayil *todu* have been completed, and a maintenance grant of Rs. 150 has been provided from 1105; similarly, the improvement and deepening of the Anchumana *todu* has been completed; and the improvement of the Kalchira *todu* will be investigated later.

The provision of the lock and culvert at Chakkalayil must wait. So too must the improvement of the village road mentioned by you. Both of them have first to be investigated.

You spoke of improvements to the Vaikam-Vechur road. The work is being taken up section by section. The first section, up to Vallayil

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

todu, has been completed almost. The Attara bridge has been constructed, and an estimate for the remaining portion of the road is under preparation.

The widening and deepening of the Bhutattan *todu* must wait.

117. Needs of the Kottayam town.

MR. T. K. KITTAN (*Municipal Council, Kottayam*) said that the accommodation in the Kottayam District Hospital was hardly sufficient to meet the demands of the people. While the actual number of in-patients at the moment was 75, the number of beds available was only 29. The remaining patients were being accommodated in verandas, etc. There were only two beds in the labour ward which were hardly sufficient. More beds should be provided by increasing the accommodation and the labour ward should be enlarged by increasing the number of beds there also.

The Kottayam Division Cutcherry was situated very near the Palace and the accommodation was insufficient. The holding of the office there was also inconvenient during the tours of His Highness the Maha Raja. It would therefore be convenient to the general public if the office be shifted to a separate building and if this was not feasible, at least a waiting shed should be put up for the use of the clients.

The First Class Magistrate's Court also was held in a portion of the Division Cutcherry building. The court-house was too small to accommodate even the vakils. In cases where a large of number of witnesses had to be examined, the court could not accommodate all. There was also no convenient waiting shed for the clients. This court also was subject to the same inconvenience as the Division Cutcherry during times of royal tours. The court-house should therefore be shifted to a separate and convenient building or at least a new waiting shed for the clients should be put up.

The Stationary Magistrate's Court was housed in a rented building which was ill-ventilated and in an insanitary condition. Being adjacent to the public road, it was subject to the disturbance caused by the noise of the buses plying to and fro. Either a new building should be put up for this court or it should be removed to a convenient building.

The Additional Munsiff's Court building too was small and inconvenient. So also the Principal Munsiff's Court. These defects should be remedied by adding some extensions to the existing buildings.

The District Court was located in a good site, but the buildings were old and insufficient for holding the courts. A separate and convenient building for this court was an imperative need and should be put up at an early date.

Thus all the Revenue and Judical Courts at Kottayam were inconvenently housed. The question of housing these courts properly should therefore engage the earnest attention of the Government.

Many public offices, such as the Stationary Magistrate's Court, the Panchayat Court, the Excise Division Office, the Divisional Forest Office,

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly